

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE NORMAN SISISKY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. TIM ROEMER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2001*

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, the death last week of our friend and colleague NORM SISISKY claimed one of our great leaders, and took away one of my respected and personal friends in Congress.

NORM symbolized the very best there is in public service. A good family man, NORM was widely respected for his honesty and integrity. He was also one of the most wonderful, witty and funny people I have known.

On the Intelligence Committee, where I had the privilege to serve with NORM, you could always count on him to give everyone a hard time. Whether he was grilling the director of the FBI, or just kidding around with staff, NORM was relentless when it came to dispensing good humor and well-intentioned grief. But he always did so in the most embracing and engaging way. With a sparkle in his eye, NORM always had the unique ability to say the right thing to break the tension and put a human face on our work.

But there was so much more to NORM SISISKY than just his great sense of humor. When it comes to military and national defense matters, there was no one more knowledgeable or more committed than NORM. His expertise in military affairs enabled him to serve both his district and our nation well.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee and the Intelligence Committee, NORM led the fight to improve our nation's military readiness, enhance our national security, and ensure America's leadership in the world. We owe a great debt of gratitude to NORM for his persistent and visionary leadership on defense matters. Clearly, our military and intelligence communities have lost a great friend.

NORM came to Congress after a long and successful career in the private sector. He put his business skills and knowledge to work in many productive ways, especially helping lead the fight for a balanced budget and smaller government. NORM epitomized the kind of public servant our founding fathers had in mind when they wrote the Constitution: a skilled and successful businessman giving back to his community, and leading Congress with his thoughtful and pragmatic advice.

We will miss NORM's knowledge, his leadership and his wonderful sense of humor. Our friend from Virginia made a huge impact in Congress, both as a leader and as a friend. My sympathies go out to NORM's wife Rhoda, their four sons Richard, Mark, Stuart and Terry, and their entire extended family.

COMMENDING THE 3M FOUNDATION FOR ITS PRESERVATION EFFORTS

**HON. BILL LUTHER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 3, 2001*

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to mention a recent action by a corporation based in my home State of Minnesota that will go a long way toward improving the quality of life of our residents.

On March 20, 2001, the 3M Foundation gave the Nature Conservancy of Minnesota a gift of \$3.2 million to preserve and restore two areas of grassland in the State. Appropriately, it was also the first day of spring. This is the largest gift ever given to the state chapter. The gift will be used to purchase prairie and forest land and to promote community-based conservation efforts. This effort will have a significant and long-lasting impact on Minnesota's wildlife and vegetation. 3M's gift is one that will truly keep giving, offering current and future generations access to some of Minnesota's finest natural treasures.

I commend 3M for its commitment to preserving Minnesota and it is my hope that the good work 3M does will serve as a national example to increase corporate giving and involvement in communities across the country.

THE 15TH NATIONAL DISABLED VETERANS WINTER SPORTS CLINIC

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 3, 2001*

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege to participate in an extraordinary event, the 15th National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. This year it was held at Snowmass Village at Aspen, CO. Sponsored by the Disabled American Veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and others, this event provides disabled veterans the chance to engage in various outdoor and indoor sports activities.

More than 300 severely disabled veterans took to the ski slopes, tackled rock climbing, went scuba diving, or played sledge hockey. This wonderful program is much more than a source of fun and athletic challenges; it is designed to assist in the rehabilitation of veterans with severe disabilities. Physical activities are essential to improving physical fitness, refining motor skills, and building self-confidence.

Many of these men and women at one time thought that their disability ended hopes for an active, vibrant life. Instead of viewing their physical condition as a barrier to recreation, these individuals saw the opportunity to overcome the obstacle posed by their disability.

The men and women at the clinic did not dwell on adversity; rather they eagerly engaged in the physical trial of sports. This event demonstrated the courage and abilities of these veterans. It also serves as an inspiration to others to be bold in redefining what the disabled can do.

I had the privilege of being Chairman of the Veterans' Health Subcommittee and I now

serve as its Vice Chairman. I worked with the VA, the DAV, and other wonderful groups in strengthening the services provided to veterans and I look forward to continuing this cooperation. The Veterans are the only group of Americans that have earned their benefits, they didn't just happen to be here, they earned it on the battlefield, they earned it in service to America.

Serving America's veterans mean exploring new options for enhancing their quality of life. The Winter Sports Clinic exemplifies an innovative approach to honoring the men and women who served in uniform.

CONGRATULATIONS STANLEY  
GWIAZDOWSKI—2001 PAL JOEY  
AWARD WINNER

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 3, 2001*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to fellow Milwaukeean Stanley Gwiazdowski, the St. Joseph Foundation, Inc. 2001 Pal Joey Award winner. Stan will be honored April 23rd at the annual Pal Joey dinner.

Stan is a worthy recipient of the prestigious Pal Joey Award as he has served his country, church, community and family faithfully for many years. He graduated from St. Hyacinth School and South Division High School. Drafted into the Army in 1941, Stan was chosen to attend infantry officers school at Fort Benning, Georgia. Sent overseas for the first time, Stan joined the 34th Infantry Division in Africa. His later Army assignments led him to units in Italy, North Africa and France. Stan received numerous military honors, including the Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. Upon his return to the United States, Stan transferred to the Army Reserves. He retired from the Reserves in 1980, after nearly 35 years of military service to his country.

In 1946, Stan was sworn in as a City of Milwaukee police officer. He proudly served in all of the southside Milwaukee districts and was promoted to patrol sergeant and desk sergeant positions. He retired in May of 1980.

Throughout the years, Stan also found time to serve his community. He is the current secretary of the South Side Business Club, a member of the Milwaukee Society, the St. Josephat Foundation, the secret International Mushroom Pickers Society (IMPS), the Reserve Officers Association and Retired Officers Association.

Stan married Rose Kalinowski in 1946. The couple has been blessed with seven children and 12 grandchildren. An avid sheephead player, Stan is quick with a joke and to volunteer whenever and wherever he may be needed.

It is my distinct pleasure to join Stan's many friends and family members to saluting his many years of service to the Milwaukee community and especially the St. Joseph Foundation, Inc. May God continue to bless you and your family, Stan. Sto lat!